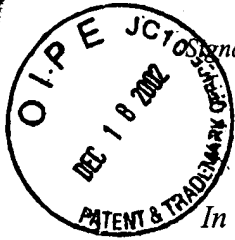


CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D. C. 20231, on December 12, 2002

Signature: Karl Bateman

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:
SAVAGE *et al.*

Application No. 09/996,869

Filed: November 27, 2001

For: Semiconductor Wafer Processing
System with Vertically-Stacked Process
Chambers and Single-Axis Dual Wafer
Transfer System

Examiner: BUEKER, Richard R.
(prior application)

Art Unit: 1763

Date: December 12, 2002

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is hereby submitted in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98 and pursuant to Applicant's continuing duty under 37 CFR 1.56 to bring any information which may be material to patentability of this application to the Examiner's attention.

Applicant makes no representation that a complete search has been conducted by the Applicant, or that there is not possibly more relevant art. Applicant also makes no representation that the information submitted herewith is in fact material.

The subject application is believed patentable over any of the references listed on the attached PTO 08A form. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3); accordingly, no fees are required.

Respectfully submitted,

DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP

Maria S. Swiatek

Maria S. Swiatek
Reg. No. 37,244

Date: December 12, 2002

Four Embarcadero Center, Suite 3400
San Francisco, CA 94111-4187
Telephone: 650-494-8700
Facsimile: 650-494-8771
1050095

RECEIVED

DEC 19 2002

TC 1700